

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 have been presented for examination in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected in the Office Action dated April 4, 2007.

Claims 8, 10 and 11 have been objected to in the Office Action dated April 4, 2007.

Claims 5-7 have been cancelled by this Amendment A.

Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, and 13, and 14 have been amended in this Amendment A.

Claims 1-4, and 8-16 are still in the Application and reconsideration of the Application is hereby respectfully requested.

Referring to the Section labeled *Claim Objections* on Page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 8, 10, and 11 have been objected to because of informalities kindly pointed out by Examiner. The cited informalities have been corrected by amendment to the referenced Claims. Therefore, objection to the Claims has been answered by amendment.

16. Referring to the Section on Page 2 entitled *Claim Rejections-35 USC 102*, on Page 5 Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent

1 6,035,135 issued in the name of Okamura (hereinafter
2 referred to as Okamura). Referring to the Section beginning
3 on Page 8, entitled *Claim Rejections-35 USC 103*, Claims 1
4 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
5 unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,614,978 issued in the name
6 of Kanzaki (hereinafter referred to as Kanzaki). In the
7 amended Claims, Claims 1 and 8 are the remaining
8 independent Claims. Referring first to the rejection of
9 Claim 8 with reference to Okamura, the Okamura reference is
10 concerned with controlling the flash device associated with
11 an image sensing device, cf. the title of the reference).
12 The Okamura reference describes a "pre-radiation"
13 operation. This operation is not a "simulated" image
14 acquisition operation as specifically identified in Claim
15 8, but rather is an actual image acquisition, not for the
16 purpose of image storage, but for the purpose of
17 calibration of the flash intensity. Therefore, rejection
18 of Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by reference to Okamura
19 is respectfully traversed.

20
21 With respect to the rejection of Claim 1, the other
22 independent Claim remaining in the Application, the Kanzaki
23 reference describes two shutters. Actually what is
24 described is two independent curtains for providing a
25 single shutter. The present Application has only one
26 shutter and two curtains are not disclosed. To clarify
27 this distinction, Claim 1 has been amended so that one
28 shutter, activated twice, is described. In addition, in
29 the Kanzaki reference, both shutters must be activated to
30 provide a single image. Therefore, the image acquisition

1 device in the Kanzaki reference has a different structure
2 then the image acquisition device of the present
3 Application. Therefore, rejection of Claim 1 under 35
4 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully traversed.

5

6 In view of the fact that Claim 1 is believed to be in
7 condition for allowance, Claims 2-4 and 13-16 depending
8 there from are, believed to be in condition for allowance.
9 Similarly, in view of the fact the fact that Claim 8 is
10 believed to be in condition for allowance, Claims 9-12,
11 depending there from are, believed to be in condition for
12 allowance.

13

14 Therefore, rejection of Claims 1-4 and 8-16 under 35
15 USC 102 (a) or under 35 USC 102(b) under either Kanzaki
16 and/or Okamura is respectfully traversed.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the foregoing discussion and the foregoing amendments, it is believed that Claims 1-4, and 8-16 are now in condition for allowance of and allowance of Claims 1-4, and 8-16 is respectfully requested. Applicant hereby respectfully requests a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for this Application.

10 Should any issues remain that could be resolved by a
11 telephonic interview, Examiner is requested to telephone
12 the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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